

**Hurricane Harvey-Texas**  
**ESF-10**  
**Situation Report #16**

**Subject:** SITREP #16  
**To:** Agency Leads  
**Thru:** Maggie Waldon, PSC  
**From:** Unified Command  
**Date:** 9/14/2017  
**Reporting Period:** 9/14/2017

## **1. Introduction**

### **1.1. Background**

Hurricane Harvey made landfall at 2300 ET, August 26<sup>th</sup>, as a Category 4 storm near Rockport, Texas. Harvey stalled over southeastern TX. Due to its slow motion and a prolonged period of onshore flow, the impacted areas received more than 50 inches of precipitation which subsequently led to catastrophic flooding.

An ESF-10 Mission Assignment was signed on August 28, 2017. The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Texas Commission on the Environmental Quality (TCEQ), Texas General Land Office (TGLO) and the US Coast Guard (USCG) have entered into Unified Command to begin the evaluation, clean-up and recovery of spills, releases, vessels and orphan containers.

## **2. Current Activities**

### **2.1. Operations Section**

On September 14, 2017, Unified Command continued operations in accordance with the Natural Disaster Operational Workgroup (NDOW) Standard Operating Procedures, NDOW forms and Response Manager. The Unified Command is supported by three operational branches: Alpha Branch in Corpus Christi, Bravo Branch in Houston and Charlie Branch in Port Arthur. Hazard Evaluation, Oil Discharge Assessment and Recovery, as well as Orphan Container Evaluation and Recovery teams continued working throughout the Alpha, Bravo and Charlie Branches. Drinking Water (DW) and Waste Water (WW) Assessment teams were active in the Bravo and Charlie Branches.

- The Portable High-Throughput Integrated Laboratory Identification System (PHILIS) will finish sample processing on September 15, 2017.
- EPA's mobile air monitoring Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA) bus is being used to screen specific areas for target contaminants that are affiliated with the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey. They will continue monitoring force majeure facilities in the Houston and Beaumont areas.

Mission Assignment:

Request ESF-10 assistance to the State of Texas in support of assessment and response operations to actual or threatened hazardous materials and oil releases/discharges as covered under Category B (Emergency Protective Services) for Public Assistance. The assistance includes response to releases/discharges from fixed facilities, vehicles, intermodal container (to include orphaned containers) and vessels (mobile) sources to remove the threat of imminent danger or contamination to the public that could be caused by any release.

<b>Table 1: Mission Assignments</b>			
<b>Funding Sources</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Funding Ceiling</b>	<b>End Date</b>
MA 4332DR- TX-EPA-03	As requested by the State of Texas, provide assessment and emergency response support to the State including water/wastewater treatment plant assessments, aerial assessments	\$10,092,000	9/22/2017
USCG MA D17BA1	USCG will provide oil and hazardous materials field response which may include but not limited to the placement of vessels removed of pollutions to a pre-determined staging area; providing specialized expertise; conducting damage assessment of oil/hazmat waste impact via air and/or water; contractor oversight; evaluating hazards; and/or response, removal, or disposal of: actual and potential oil discharges, and releases of hazardous materials, pollutants and contaminations, and remove pollutants from vessels in or upon navigable waters and adjoining shoreline.	\$20,000,000	9/21/2017

Liaison Officers distributed TCEQ's social media messaging on debris management to 54 Emergency Operation Centers (EOC), Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) and Emergency Managers. They met with Regional Community Liaisons to get situational awareness of concerns and trends they are encountering while visiting their areas of response. Liaisons provided them information on where all of our approved flyers are posted.

Public Information Officers closed three media inquiries (Reuters, Houston Chronicle, and CQ Roll Call) and distributed and pitched to supporting agencies' (TGLO and USCG) amplifying TCEQ social media messaging on debris management. The Assistant Public Information Officer assisted the USCG PIO staff with location information on personnel performing debris assessments so they can illustrate the response effort utilized by EPA and researched news topics related to EPA and Hurricane Harvey to assist PIO with forecasting trends.

**Table 2** represents the up to date assessments of drinking water and waste water systems evaluated by both phone and on-site.

Table 2: Drinking Water and Waste Water Assessments		
<u>Assessment Types</u>	<u>Daily Assessments</u>	<u>Total Assessments</u>
On-Site DW Assessments	51	603
On-Site WW Assessment	39	418
Phone DW Assessments	300	6754
Phone WW Assessments	27	4639

**Table 3:** This table represents the Operational Statuses of Community Water Systems that have been assessed.

Table 3: Current Public Water Systems Workload and Accomplishments			
Operational ID	Operational Status	Number of Public Water Systems	Population Served (Community Water Systems)
1	No problems	1753	7,100,240
2	Lifted BWN due to negative BacT samples. Normal operations resumed	184	114,642
3	BacT sample results pending	37	12,939
4	Site visit needed	4	7,617
5	Lost Power – maintaining pressure	0	0
6	Not Operating	13	4,809
7	Lost pressure & or Treatment	14	21,160
8	Out of Contact	5	0
9	Contact Pending	1	0
10	Could not Contact Facility	7	96
11	System destroyed	4	472
	Totals	44	33,682

<b>Table 4: Field Teams on 9/14/2017 – per IAP #15</b>				
Teams	Alpha	Bravo	Charlie	Total
Hazard Evaluation	1	1	2	4
Oil Discharge Assessment	2	5	1	8
ER/Orphan Container Recovery	1	17	3	21
Oil/Vessel Recovery	4	2		6
Staging Areas	1	1	1	3
Air Operations		1		1
Air Monitoring		1		1
Water Infrastructure Assessment – DW		5		5
Water Infrastructure Assessment – WW		6		6
Totals	9	39	7	55

<b>Table 5: Daily/Cumulative summary of Hazard Evaluations/Recovery</b>				
<b>Status</b>	<b>Opened</b>		<b>Closed</b>	
	<b>9/14/2017</b>	<b>Number of Targets Remaining Open</b>	<b>9/14/2017</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>
Alpha Branch	5	5	3	97
Bravo Branch	60	104	130	258
Charlie Branch	43	46	21	67
NRC Reports	1	1	1	3
Totals	109	156	155	425

\* The data from Response Manager has undergone a complete QA/QC and data was corrected as necessary. Due to this effort, numbers of targets Open and Closed has changed from previous reports. The data now shows a more accurate picture of targets remaining open and those which have been closed.

Note: Open means the target is yet to be recovered. Closed means the target was recovered/left in place or access was denied to collect the item.

Table 6: Waste Received at All Staging Pads to Date						
	CONTAINERS				TOTALS	
DATE	Drums [55gal]	Small Containers [< 55gal]	Large Containers [> 55gal]	Cylinders	Total Items Collected Today	Total Items Collected Project to Date
9/14/2017	26	38	0	5	69	517
Totals	268	170	17	62		

Table 7: Daily/Cumulative Summary of Spills/Discharges (NON-VESSELS)*				
Status	Opened		Closed	
	9/14/2017	Number of Facilities/Spills Remaining Open	9/14/2017	Cumulative
Alpha Branch	0	0	0	33
Bravo Branch	0	7	1	71
Charlie Branch	1	10	1	13
NRC Reports	8	27	16	96
Totals	9	44	18	213

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Note: Open means the target is yet to be recovered/cleaned up. Closed means the target was recovered/cleaned up by an RP or not found upon return to location.

<b>Table 8: Daily/Cumulative Summary of VESSELS*</b>				
<b>Status</b>	<b>Opened</b>		<b>Closed</b>	
	<b>9/14/2017</b>	<b>Number of Vessels Remaining Open</b>	<b>9/14/2017</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>
Alpha Branch	1	232	24	225
Bravo Branch	7	28	1	41
Charlie Branch	34	51	1	7
NRC Reports	1	4	0	9
<b>Totals</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>282</b>

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Note: Open means the target is yet to be recovered. Closed means the target was recovered/cleaned up by an RP or not found upon return to location.

## **Other Notable Activities**

### **ALPHA BRANCH**

The Oil Discharge Assessment Team 1 monitored salvage operations associated with the Signet Enterprise. The Responsible Party lead contactors adjusted the volume of air in the ballast and fuel tanks. Preliminary tests resulted in subsequent adjustments throughout the day. Personnel monitored the containment area surrounding the vessel, ensuring that no sheen was present. The heavy lift straps, slings, and hoist cables are in place for the vessel lifting process. The tow plan has been approved by Sector CC. EPA and the USCG will continue oversight.

The Oil Discharge Assessment Teams monitored the successful salvage operation associated with the towing vessel Sabine Pass on San Jose Island. Personnel monitored the containment area surrounding the vessel and no sheen was present. The vessel was able to get underway under its own power and safely moored alongside the Higman fleet.

The Oil Discharge Recovery Teams coordinated and monitored Responsible Party led operations and prioritized threats to the environment for removal via land and boat in Padre Island Canals, Flour Bluff Canals, Rincon Channel, Island Moorings, Conn Brown Harbor, Key Allegro, Rockport Harbor, Fulton Harbor, and Rattlesnake Bay.

## **BRAVO BRANCH**

The Discharge Assessment Teams conducted facility site visits to verify cleanup efforts in targeted grids throughout the Bravo operational areas. They monitored clean-up completion and no pollution was found.

The Discharge Recovery Teams cleared the Cayenne River for active pollution discharge.

Air Operations assessed vessels in Highlands, Baytown, and Kemah for future salvage operations.

The ER/Orphan Container Recovery Teams continue recovering targets in portions of Liberty, Harris, Brazoria, Galveston, and Montgomery counties.

## **CHARLIE BRANCH**

The Hazard Evaluation Team 1 conducted an assessment at Beaumont Yacht Club. The team located and recorded a new target and confirmed the scheduled removal of a pontoon, which is expected to be completed by close of business today.

The Hazard Evaluation Team 2 conducted assessments of targets North of I-10. Their efforts yielded no new target identification or removal.

The Hazard Evaluation Team 3 conducted an assessment on the salvage target “Lucky Striker” near Four Way stop ramp on Sabine River, resulting in no new findings. The team also assessed Colier’s Ferry boat ramp on Neches River.

The Oil Discharge Assessment Team 1 investigated NRC reports at the following locations: Pine Street in Port Neches, US-90 in Beaumont and Azalea Street in Vidor. After exhaustive efforts, they did not locate any oil/hazmat on location. The NRC report was closed.

The Oil Container Recovery Team 1 retrieved all targets from North Harbor Loop in lower Sabine River, therefore, all targets at these locations are now closed. Oil Container Recovery Team 2 retrieved previously identified targets from Cottage Lane in Bridge City, however, they weren’t able to locate targets at Dupont Drive in Orange and W Dewey Ave in Orange. They were able to retrieve all targets from Old Hwy at Bairds Bayou, Canary street & Martin street. The team identified all targets at Vidor High School as football training equipment.

### Participating Agencies

- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- Texas General Land Office
- Texas Parks and Wildlife
- US Environmental Protection Agency
- US Coast Guard
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency

### 3. Personnel on Site

Agency	ICP	Alpha Branch	Bravo Branch	Charlie Branch	Totals
US EPA	10	2	30	8	50
USCG	17	18	33	23	91
TCEQ	2		22	8	32
TGLO	5	3		6	14
TXSG					0
CST			20		20
NOAA	1				1
Contractors	7	2	5	19	33
Totals	42	25	110	64	241



